

CONTEST

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Extreme was adopted. The Sportsman's Warehouse sponsors the Sportsman's team, a division which is designed to complement the Midwest Coyote Calling Event.

"It has no skill level requirements and is open to any and all callers," he said.

The event has a lower entry fee and thus a lower payback return than the Midwest event.

"This class is intended to help promote the sport of coyote calling and get more hunters introduced to the popular sport of predator calling," he said.

There is an entry fee of \$200 per team for the Predator Extreme class and \$40 for the Sportsman Warehouse class. There is a 100-percent payback of all entry fees. On top of the payback, there are numerous prizes.

"Because it is the 10th year anniversary, we are expecting nicer trophies and prizes," Mr. Rueb said. "It will be a bigger and more elaborate contest than in year's past."

Last year, participants received approximately \$30,000 in prizes. This year, Mr. Rueb is expecting at least \$35,000 in prizes.

Mr. Rueb said there are a couple of film crews planning to cover FoxPro's Midwest Coyote Calling Event in St. Francis. He said one of the film crews may be entering the contest and filming during the two days.

"We are getting a lot of national coverage," he said, adding that coyote calling is growing by leaps and bounds and people are wanting to know more about it.

For more information, contact Brent Rueb at 785-332-3402. Or go to the web for information and results: www.predatorsniperstyx.com.



THE REPUBLICAN RIVER is quite a sight with the ice and snow during the storm.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

SNOW

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However, he felt by the today, most county roads will be cleared to two-lane traffic.

"The farmers have been great to help out, using their tractors to help clear roads," Mr. Flemming said. "This has really helped us out."

Steve Christy, assistant line superintendent for PrairieLand Electric, said Cheyenne and Rawlins counties had been fortunate.

"We have had a few outages and the ice caused some problems such as broken tie wires and insulators but our problems are nothing compared to those in Norton, Phillips, Graham and Rooks counties," he said.

He said that he had been told that, as of Tuesday, there were approximately 1,200 poles down in that area because of the ice and workers still had not been able to assess the damage everywhere. Local PrairieLand

crews left Wednesday to help in these areas.

It has been estimated that around 5,000 people in western Kansas are without electricity.

Governor Kathleen Sebelius declared a state of disaster emergency for the 39 counties in northwest and southwest Kansas including Cheyenne County. The declaration will ensure resources are available to counties severely affected by the heavy snow and ice.

The governor and Congressman Jerry Moran flew into Goodland on Wednesday and were going to survey the damage in western Kansas.

There has been some talk on weather stations that a third storm could move into northwest Kansas on Friday but, if it does materialize, it is not supposed to be the magnitude of the last two storms.

FEED

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He noted that having the cooperation of Tim Burr, St. Francis Equity manager, in letting the grain be stored and picked up at the old hardware building is great. Equity personnel, Don Keeker and Brian Holzwarth also helped unload the grain.

"Our greatest concern is that the grain gets to the birds," Mr. Bixler said.

If people know where pheasants,

quail and turkey are living such as in wind breaks or dense tall grass, they are asked to pick up a bucket of grain and scatter it. Farmers driving to and from town may also know areas where they can scatter additional grain.

"The snow is great for the crops and pastures but it can be a killer for birds unable to find food," Mr. Bixler said. "I hope everyone who possibly can will help take care of our wildlife."

Dairy expected have impact on school

By Jan Katz Ackerman

When Tom and Judy McCarty moved their dairy operation to Rexford from Pennsylvania in 1999, they brought holiday traditions with them they share with family and staff members.

"We had no inkling of the impact we'd have on the school and economics of this area," Tom McCarty said. "We're working with 14 families and about 30 children, but not all of them are in school."

The McCartys had just finished Christmas shopping for the families and children.

"To me, it's a big deal and we always try to do something for them at Christmas," Tom McCarty said. "We want to show them respect for their respect for us."

Respect, determination and hard work are the elements paying off for the McCartys, who, in August 2007 will open a second dairy four miles east of Bird City in Cheyenne County.

"With three boys here, we definitely can do more than we are now," McCarty said. "We are in a position to have more manage-

ment skills used and have the ability to expand the boys' horizons. That's our biggest goal."

Referring to Mike, Clay and Ken, McCarty said a fourth son, David, who manages a dairy near Syracuse may one day join his brothers in northwest Kansas. As far as the facility opening in Cheyenne County, Mike will manage it.

Mike said the biggest impact the new dairy will have will be moving yet again. He moved to Rexford from Wyalusing, Pa., in 1999. He said he and his wife, Amy, and their two sons, will continue the fourth generation dairy business. He said while the move and opening a new dairy will be challenging, he is excited about meeting new people and hiring new employees.

"The people we've met are great," he said, "But it's hiring new employees and going from zero cows to 1,800 cows in 45 days that will be pretty stressful."

At the dairy located five miles southwest of Rexford on U.S. Highway 83, the McCartys' 16 employees generate about 13,000 gallons of milk each day.

Milking 22 of 24 hours each day, the dairy is operated in three shifts which rotate each month. Mike said the rotation schedule was suggested by the employees themselves so time with their family could vary throughout the day.

The day shift leader is Leonardo Ortega. He said he enjoys working at the dairy because although he earned an accounting degree in Mexico, he was only able to make \$80 per week at his former job.

"I like working here because I work every day and had no pay in Mexico," Ortega said.

Tom McCarty said while talk of Congressional changes for immigrant workers was a hot topic earlier this year, things have seemed to settle down.

"Things are stable," he said. McCarty attributes hard work and good workers to the success of the 1,900 head dairy.

Seed money secured from the Century II Foundation, a non-profit foundation in Bird City, is helping the McCartys prepare for the expansion.

"The Century II Foundation has been great to work with," Tom McCarty said.

Century II director Cathy Domsch was unavailable for comment. Carol Redding, Cheyenne County Development Director, said she is excited about the new business for her county.

"We know the dairy is going to benefit the county and school," she said, "I'm all for it. Whatever it takes and whoever can help, that's wonderful."

Ms. Redding said she would like to see the McCartys take their new dairy "one step further," and install a digester and generate energy from the cattle waste.

"But digesters are very expensive," she said, "But either way, the dairy will be a good thing for Cheyenne County."



Coming Soon:

Winter Sports Special Section



This supplement will feature St. Francis and Bird City Jr. High and High School

Basketball players, Wrestlers and Cheerleaders! To be inserted in your paper in January.



For more details, contact Casey McCormick at the Saint Francis Herald at 785-332-3162

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